

POLICY GOALS FOR CITY OF BOULDER COLLABORATIONS WITH THE BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

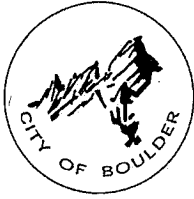
Approved by Boulder City Council on February 19, 2008

The City of Boulder is eager to collaborate with the Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) to begin or continue partnerships and funding for programs and projects that further the following policy goals:

1. **Integrating Diverse Populations:** The city supports continuing its current collaborations with BVSD to reduce barriers to integration within the school community. Both the Family Resource Schools program and the Prevention and Intervention program, focus on overcoming non-academic barriers to educational achievement, family engagement, family self sufficiency and intervention services for lower income, diverse and at-risk children, youth and families. Additionally, the Mapleton Early Childhood Center Feasibility Study will determine the viability of using the former school site as an early childhood education center with wrap-around services to expand education opportunities for lower income and diverse populations. These projects, which are compatible with the city's Social Sustainability Strategic Plan and Housing and Human Services Master Plan, as well as BVSD's goal of closing the achievement gap, represent a significant city goal for continued collaboration with BVSD.

New collaborations to pursue this goal could include assessing and implementing, or expanding, already identified strategies to reducing school stratification and isolation. Other possibilities include expanding initiatives relating to reducing risk factors leading to poor student/family integration, specifically around poverty, alcohol/substance abuse and gang related issues. The city supports exploring these efforts but recognizes that expanding efforts in this area could require workplan tradeoffs.

2. **Furthering the City's Transportation Master Plan:** The city supports collaborations with BVSD that further the city's Transportation Master Plan and reduce the vehicle miles traveled associated with school related activities. Towards that end, the city supports the following: the federal Safe Routes to Schools applications for programs and infrastructure; targeted transportation infrastructure to enhance safe access to schools; joint advocacy with other agencies such as the Regional Transportation District, the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Denver Regional Council of Governments to support high frequency transit, transit pass programs, pedestrian, bicycle and transit amenities, and transportation infrastructure near schools; follow through in pursuing a federal grant for Broadway and Euclid, and; continued coordination with BVSD's School Transportation Coordinator program, ideally with increased resources and support from the BVSD.



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3. **Furthering the City's Climate Action Plan** – The city will pursue projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while furthering other BVSD, City Council and community goals. Specifically, the city is interested in collaborating with BVSD on reducing vehicle miles traveled associated with school related activities and setting and achieving goals to improve energy efficiency and increase renewable energy use of existing and new school facilities. The community expects leadership from the city and BVSD and together we can meet and exceed these expectations while saving money and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.
4. **Preserving the City's Historic School Buildings** – Boulder's historic schools are irreplaceable links to the city's past and important anchors in the neighborhoods in which they are located. The city will explore partnerships with BVSD to ensure that historically and architecturally significant school buildings are preserved. The rehabilitation of historic school buildings to achieve current educational standards should be fully explored in a manner that preserves their essential historic character. When continued use of a historic school building as an educational facility is not possible, appropriate rehabilitation and adaptive use should take place.
5. **Preserving Existing Schools and School Programs**- The city will work with BVSD to ensure a strong system of neighborhood schools as the place where K-12 education occurs and to encourage attendance at neighborhood schools. School choice should support the city's Transportation Master Plan, specifically addressing the reduction of vehicles miles traveled, preserving existing schools and integrating diverse populations. It is essential to have a good geographic distribution of school facilities conveniently located to serve the population in the long term in order to enable safe and convenient pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access by students. It is equally essential to protect the schools and school programs that have a good ethnic/socio-economic balance and consider the impact of proposed changes on further stratification.
6. **Preserving and Enhancing Access to School Recreational and Athletic Fields**- The city will pursue opportunities to cooperate on recreational/athletic fields and facilities, including improving these facilities, and expanding joint use agreements to meet broader community demands for such facilities as appropriate.